

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

EFS&T Department - Diversion of 11.38 ha of forest land in Compartment No.571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying of 400/220 KV overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220 KV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favour of CGM (Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam – Final (stage-II) approval accorded.

ENVIRONEMNT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (Section-II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.38

Dated.03.07.2023
Read the following:-

- 1)From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15035/4/2020-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated 31.07.2021.
- 2)State Govt.Lr.No.1486/Sec.II/2021/1480785, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated 14.09.2021.
- 3)From the IGF (Central), GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada,Lr.F.No.4-APC135/2021-VIJ/81,dated 04.10.2021.
- 4)From the PCCF&HoFF, A.P., Lr.Ref.No.EFS02-15035/4/2020-FCA-SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated 26.11.2021.
- 5) State Govt.Lr.No.1486/Sec.II/2021, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated 01.12.2021.
- 6)From GoI, MoEF&C.C, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr No.4-APC135/2021-Vij/100, dated 11.12.2021.
- 7)From the PCCF & HoFF, A.P., Lr.Rc.No.EFS02-15035/4/2020-FCA SEC-PCCF/FCA-3, dated 05.04.2023.
- 8)State Govt.Lr.No.1486/Sec.II/2023, EFS&T(Sec.II) Dept., dated 21.04.2023.
- 9)From the GoI, MoEF&CC, IRO, Vijayawada, Lr.F.No.4-APC135/2021-VIJ/913, dated 10.05.2023.

ORDER:

In the letter first read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, has submitted a proposal for diversion of 11.38 ha of forest land in Compartment No.571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying 400/220 KV overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220 KV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favour of CGM (Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam and requested to forward the proposal to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change for consideration of the proposal under Forest (Conservation) Act,1980.

2. In the letter 2nd read above, the proposal of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, was sent to Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada for its approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. In the letter 6th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada have accorded in-principle (Stage-I) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for the proposal, subject to compliance of certain conditions stipulated therein.

4. In the letter 7th read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF, has furnished compliance report on the Stage-I conditions and requested to consider the same and forward it to Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, IRO, Vijayawada for according Stage-II approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Accordingly, State Government have forwarded compliance report to the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change,, IRO, Vijayawada and requested to accord Final(Stage-II) approval for the proposal vide in the letter 8th read above.

(Contd.P-2)

5. In the letter 9th read above, the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, IRO, Vijayawada, have accorded Final (Stage-II) approval under Section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 11.38 ha of forest land in Compartment No.571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying of 400/220 KV overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220 KV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favour of CGM (Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam, subject to Certain conditions stipulated therein.

6. After careful consideration of the proposal, the Government hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, for diversion of 11.38 ha of forest land in Compartment No.571 & 572 of Nadupuru RF, Parawada Beat, Visakhapatnam Division for laying of 400/220 KV overhead Transmission Line works from 400/220 KV Kalapaka Substation to the proposed Cable Pot Head Station for HPCL Refinery at Visakhapatnam in favour of CGM (Projects VRMP) HPCL, Visakhapatnam, subject to the following conditions:-

- i. Legal status of the diverted forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Demarcation of the forest area proposed for diversion shall be carried out by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency;
- iii. Compensatory afforestation and its maintenance in identified degraded forest area within 32.80 ha (20.58 ha in Nallakonda RF + 12.25ha in Kambalakonda Extension RF) shall be carried out by the State Forest Department from the amount which has already been realized from the User Agency;
- iv. The Forest Department shall ensure that the CA scheme as proposed in the diversion proposal shall be implemented in its entirety and the approved compensatory afforestation scheme shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- v. Additional amount of the Net Present Value (NPV) of the diverted forest land if any, becoming due after revision of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in future, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to this effect;
- vi. In compliance to the condition No.7(b), it is reported that, Prosecution orders have been issued by DFO, Visakhapatnam vide procedure Rc.No.1075/2021-55 (OR No121/2021-22 and OR No122/2021-22 VSP dated 22.09.2021, Hence, the State Government shall submit status report of the proceedings to this office from time to time with supporting documents;
- vii. It is reported that as per section 1.21 (ii) (c), the disciplinary action has initiated against the staff concerned and awarded with penalty as per AP Civil Service (CC&A) Rules, 1991, hence supporting documents related to above action claimed to be initiated by the State Government shall be submitted to this office at the earliest;
- viii. No trees shall be allowed to be felled in the diverted forest area;
- ix. Prior approval of the Central Government shall be obtained by the user agency following due process as prescribed under the guidelines issued under the FC Act 1980 for transfer of the diverted forest area under subject project to APTRANSCO or to any other agency, department or person;
- x. Width of RoW shall be maintained as per the standard specification as per the Ministry's guidelines and additional forest area shall not be utilized beyond 11.38 ha;
- xi. Disturbance shall be kept minimal by creating labour camps outside the forest area and it will be the responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the labourers & staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora & fauna;

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- xii. The User Agency shall carryout plantation and maintenance of dwarf species (preferably medicinal plants) in the right of way under the transmission line at the project cost;
- xiii. The User Agency at its cost shall provide bird deflectors, which are to be fixed on the upper conductor of the transmission line at suitable intervals to avoid bird hits;
- xiv. No additional or new path will be constructed inside the forest area for the transportation of construction materials for execution of the project work;
- xv. Future pollarding/pruning of trees will be done with the permission of the local forest officer wherever necessary for the maintenance of the transmission lines;
- xvi. The User Agency shall provide firewood, preferably alternate fuel to the labourers and the staff working at the site so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the adjacent forest areas;
- xvii. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of the Central Government;
- xviii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance to all the Acts, Rules, Regulations and Guidelines of the Ministry, for the time being in force, as applicable to such project and all other mandatory clearances required for such transmission line projects shall be obtained by the User Agency;
- xix. Any other condition that the Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office, Vijayawada may impose from time to time in the interest of afforestation, conservation and management of flora and fauna in the area shall be complied by the User Agency;

7. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force, Andhra Pradesh, shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**B.RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)**

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Head of Forest Force,
Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur.

Copy to:

M/s. HPCL Visakh Refinery, Post Box-15, Visakhapatnam,
Andhra Pradesh-530011.

SF/SC

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //


SECTION OFFICER